Genealogical & Family History Research at MARC

Types of Resources, Approaches and Tips

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Preparing for a visit

- Talk with family & community elders about your family stories
- Write out a list of people you plan to search for and include known details (DOB/DOD; names of siblings; etc.
- Find a block of time to do your research (plan for 1-2 hours)



Types of Resources at MARC

- Census data
 - Spanish Census Records
 - Annual counts, e.g. 1896
 - Patron de Almas: 1897
 - U.S. Population Census
 - Print: 1910-1930
 - Online: 1940 online
- Vital Statistic announcements
 - Guam Newsletter
 - Guam Recorder

- Published Obituaries
 - Guam Daily News/Pacific Daily News
 - Marianas/Guam Variety
- Printed Indexes & Access to Computer Databases
- Vertical Files
- Archival Records & Historical Accounts (Spanish Documents & Manuscripts)
- Privately compiled family histories

Things to Think About Doing Research

- Extended family living arrangements may separate a child/children from parents, so you may need to look for siblings or other close relatives
- Last names in Spanish records may include "de", "de la", or "de los", even if the name does not carry it now.
 - E.g. de los Santos in 1897 could be Santos or de los Santos in 1920 U.S. Census
- Order of names changes between Spanish and American records:
 - Spanish records: [First name] [Father's last name] [Mother's last name]
 - American records: [First name] [Mother's last name] [Father's last name]

Final Tips & Reminders

- Find a tracking system that works for you:
 - Pedigree Charts and Family Group Sheets
 - A family research notebook, binder, or folder
 - Use a computer system
- No two searches will involve the same sources and same amount of time
- Consult family members regularly during your search to help find new leads or to confirm people found

